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# The Last SPEECH AND CONFESSION OF

*John Thompson,  
Richard Crook alias Hide,  
John Atkins alias Lush,  
Richard Stanley,  
Robert Wright,*

and

*Thomas Birch, for Killing the two Boys.*

Who Were Executed at

## TYBOURN,

On Friday the 4th. of this Instant May; 1688.

ONE would think, that after so many Instances of Divine Justice against Malefactors, Men would at last, begin to be so Wise, as to beware of such Courses that naturally tend to such deplorable Ends. But, Alas! notwithstanding all the Exemplary Punishments which we see daily inflicted upon Criminals, too many ~~an~~ on in their Wicked courses, and never stop, till the Justice of God lays hold upon them, and they by this means, Ruine themselves, at least as to this Life, (if not likewise as to that which is to come, since, as Divines say, *Late Repentance is seldom true.*) Would Men but seriously reflect upon the sad Consequences of evil Courses before they enter upon them, it cannot be supposed they would so easily give themselves over to them, but we too often find, that by Men's heedless running upon one Sin, that makes way for another, and that again for a third; and so they go on, till at last they make themselves an

Example



Example of Justice, as we have many times before observed, and now of late at the Execution of the following Prisoners. But I shall proceed to give you an Account of their Confessions and last Words.

*John Thompson*, who was Condemned for Breaking open the House of *Edward Mullins*, and Stealing thence a Silver Salt, three Silver Spoons and 40 l. in Money, with other Goods, Confessed that he had been a long time a bad liver, and had been guilty of many Crimes, and particularly, that he committed that Murther upon *Dorothy Stanton*, the Wife of *Philip Stanton*, otherwise called *Lump's*) in *Fig-lane*, on the 2d. of March, 1785. For which and all his other Crimes, he seemed very Penitent, and asked Forgiveness of the said *Philip* her Husband, who was present at the Execution. He was frequently heard to repeat these Words, *Whither shall I go in a few Minutes?* He likewise said, that it was not the bare apprehension of Death, or of losing this World, that Troubled him, but that he was amazed at the thoughts of appearing before the Tremendous Tribunal of God, having lived so profligate a Villain.

*Richard Crook* alias *Hide*, and *John Atkins* alias *Lush*, Condemned as Brethren in Iniquity, for Breaking open the House of *William Hollyer*, and Stealing thence two Pieces of Scarlet Cloath, both notorious Offenders, but now very Penitent. Among other things, *Hide* Confessed, that he Robbed my Lord *Preston* in *Soho-Square*, with a great many other Thefts and Villanies, having continued that course of Life for above these Nine or Ten Years; for though he was but a Stripling being not above 17 Years, yet he had been no Novice in Villany. He sadly regretted his being drawn away by bad Company, but above all, he lamented his Prophaning the *Sabbath* day, as a Sin which provoked God to withdraw his Grace from him, which laid him Naked to all the Assaults of the Devil, so that no Sin seemed so horrid but he could without any check of Conscience commit it.

*Thomas Birch*, Sentenced for Killing two Boys of *Clerkenwell* Parish, viz. *Edward Bunny* and *Samuel Wilson*, on the 4th. of April. He was likewise very Penitent, and declared that Drunkenness had brought him to his untimely end; for he said, had he not been in Drink, he might have escaped that horrid Sin of Murther he committed on those Innocent Boys; and that never till then he had been Accused of the least Misdemeanor: And therefore he advised all People to beware of that Sin, which frequently has such sad Effects attending it, it being a Sin that drowns Reason, and makes a Man more Salvage than the most rapacious Beasts, and exposes him to all manner of Sins.

*Richard Stanley* and *Robert Wright*, Condemned for Robbing of *John Clarke* on the High-way, and taking from him a Mare, one Guinea, 16 s. in Money, a Saddle, and other Goods, were no less Penitent than the former, making ample Confession of their wicked course of Life, begging Pardon of God for all those they had Injur'd, and freely Forgiving their Prosecutors. But they utterly denied the Robbery charged on them in *Hartford-shire*.

The



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The PRAYER of Richard Stanley.

**M**ost Holy Lord, Good and Gracious, Everlasting and blessed God, how Gracious art thou! Lord God, Thou art a great God, a Merciful God, and Thou hast done for me a Thousand times more than I deserved; I confess I have been a great Sinner, and have done those things I ought not to have done, and left undone what I ought to have done: Lord, help me, strengthen my Faith ever minute more and more, these few Minutes I have to live, that when my Soul and Body parts, my Soul may ascend up to Heaven; and that he that shed his Blood for Sinners, may make my peace with God. Let my Sins be covered, forsake me not, because of them I have been a great Sinner, I have offended against thy Holy Laws, I have humbly confessed them all. Lord, for Christ Jesus sake, forgive me all my Sins; I have confessed them upon my bended knees: Grant that I may be a warning to others, that they may spend the Sabbath better, walk uprightly and justly, and do nothing contrary to God's Law: Lord, bless my everlasting Soul; Jesus keep me from the torments of Hell. And now I part in peace, I have repented of all my Sins, and for Christ Jesus sake enable me with all things necessary this day, concluding this my imperfect Prayer, as Christ himself hath taught me, Our Father, &c.

In Sum, they Died all with as great sense of their Sin as most Prisoners that have been Executed these many years, shewing a great deal of fervency in their Prayers to God Almighty, earnestly requiring the Prayers of all that were present, and begging Forgiveness of all whom they had offended.

Four of them, viz. John Atkins alias Lush, Richard Stanley, Robert Wright and Thomas Birch, Died in the Communion of the Church of England; and the two others, viz. John Thompson and Richard Crook alias Hide Died in the Roman, and had two Priests attending them. The four former joined in Prayer with a Minister of the Church of England, and afterward Sung a part of a Psalm, while the other two performed their last Devotion with their Priests after their way. After which, they continued about half an hour bewailing their miserable condition, asking God Forgiveness of their Sins, and shewing all the signs of true Penitence. And we hope that God of his infinite Mercy has been Gracious to their Souls.

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With Allowance.

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*[The page contains extremely faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. A large, dark, irregular mark is visible near the top center.]*

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the County of New York, for the year ending December 31st, 1900.

County Clerk - J. B. Calkins  
Recorder of Deeds - J. B. Calkins  
Assessor - J. B. Calkins  
Comptroller - J. B. Calkins  
Auditor - J. B. Calkins  
Surveyor - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Schools - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Prisons - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Hospitals - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Asylums - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Almshouses - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Workhouses - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Poorhouses - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Charitable Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Religious Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Educational Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Scientific Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Artistic Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Literary Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Musical Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Dramatic Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Theatrical Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Cinematic Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Photographic Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Printing Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Publishing Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Bookbinding Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Stationery Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Paper Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Ink Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Pen Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Pencil Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Brush Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Comb Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Mirror Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Glass Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Metal Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Wood Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Stone Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Brick Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Tile Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Cement Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Plaster Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Paint Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Varnish Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Oil Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Wax Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Resin Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Gum Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Sugar Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Honey Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Butter Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Cheese Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Eggs Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Meat Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Fish Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Fowl Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Game Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Wild Animals Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Domestic Animals Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Insects Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Plants Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Trees Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Flowers Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Fruit Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Vegetables Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Grains Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Legumes Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Pulses Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Peas Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Lentils Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Chickpeas Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Broad Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Kidney Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Navy Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Pinto Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Black Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Green Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of White Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Red Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Yellow Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
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Inspector of Grey Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Purple Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
Inspector of Pink Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
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Inspector of Green Beans Institutions - J. B. Calkins  
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